



# Committee on Homeland Security

Democrats

**Bennie G. Thompson, Ranking  
Member**

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**CONGRESSMAN THOMPSON RESPONDS TO FLIGHT DIVERSION:  
WE MUST CHECK PASSENGERS AGAINST WATCH LISTS BEFORE TAKE-OFF**

**May 12, 2005**, Washington, DC— Congressman Bennie G. Thompson (D-MS), Ranking Member of the Committee on Homeland Security, issued the following statement today in response to the diversion of an Air France flight from Paris to Boston because one of the flight's passengers was on the "No-Fly" list.

**"Making the flying public more secure means using a little common sense. We must check passengers who are traveling to the United States against terrorist watch lists before they get on a plane, not when the plane is already in the air. We also need to make sure that the Department of Homeland Security implements a process to correct errors and inaccuracies on our watch lists so that innocent people - who pose no threat to our aviation system – do not cause planes to be diverted from their intended destinations. We must do better at securing our skies."**

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